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REASONS

FOR A

WAR;

FROM THE
IMMINENT DANGER

With which
EUROPE is Threatned,
BY THE
Exorbitant Power of the House of
BOURBON;

AND

The NECESSITY of giving immediate
ASSISTANCE to the House of AUSTRIA,
and the EMPIRE.

Humbly address'd to the
PARLIAMENT of *Great-Britain*.

*— Neque sibi amicos parare, neque inimicos tollere,
& nusquam gratia stabilis, velut qui eventum ex-
pectaverunt, ut Fortune applicarent Consilia, tandem
præda Victoris esse.* LIV. l. 32. c. 21.

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THE
PREFACE.

THE Lords and Commons of *Great Britain* were so well apprized of the Danger of the Liberties of *Europe*, from the Accession of *Spain* to the House
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of *Bourbon*, that they presented several Addresses to the late Queen, intreating her never to make Peace while any Part of the *Spanish* Dominions was in Possession of any Prince of that House ; and 'tis well known, the Conduct of the late Earl of *Oxford*, in advising the Queen to act in Opposition to these Addresses, by the Treaty of *Utrecht*, was the Foundation of the Impeachment against him in 1715. And as Time and Experience

rience are the most invincible
 Arguments that we can have
 Recourse to in human Affairs;
 so we see by the present ex-
 orbitant Power of *Spain* and
 the House of *Bourbon*, how
 well these Addresses were
 grounded, and how just were
 all the Conjectures of those
 Authors who employ'd their
 Pens upon the Death of the
 late King of *Spain*, in point-
 ing out the inevitable Dan-
 gers to which the Liberties
 of *Europe* must be exposed by
 that

that Accession. And, I think, I cannot conclude this Preface with any Thing more pertinent, than giving the Reader the Sentiments of the Author who wrote *The Duke of Anjou's Succession*, &c. in his own Words.

OUR All is now at stake, and, perhaps, in as great Danger as at any Time since we were a Nation. It concerns us to be speedy in our Councils, and vigorous in our Efforts ; Delays
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*in this Juncture may prove fatal:
 We have an Enemy to deal with
 of a fiery Temper, quick in Coun-
 cil, and ready in Dispatch; we
 have Provocation enough to rouse
 our Courage, and Cause enough
 to be upon our Guard. It is the
 Concern of every Englishman
 to engage his Representatives
 to a more than ordinary Care
 in the approaching Parliament.
 They are sent thither to attend
 the Affairs of the Nation, which
 never stood in more Need of
 wise and speedy Resolves than
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at present. May Heaven create a good Understanding betwixt his Majesty and them, and direct to such Measures as may obviate our EMINENT DANGERS.

SOME

S O M E

Seasonable Reflections

U P O N T H E

EMINENT DANGER

T O W H I C H

*The LIBERTIES of EUROPE are
exposed, by the exorbitant Power
of the House of B O U R B O N.*

THE whole World was amazed that *France*, without one Ally or Confederate, could support the War of 1688. not only against the House of *Austria*
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and the whole *Germanick* Body, but likewise against the united Forces of *Great Britain, Holland, and Savoy*; and that with Reputation and Glory, as well in *Flanders*, as in *Germany, Spain, and Italy*. This was still more surprising, when we consider, that *France*, not many Years before, was scarcely equal in Power to some of those Potentates, who were then confederated against her; but, as a *French* Author has observed, in his Remarks upon the Conclusion of that War, *France did not know her own Strength before that Period*.

DURING the Tranquillity which *Europe* enjoy'd by the Peace of

of *Ryswick*, *France* made all her Efforts to obtain the Succession of the Crown of *Spain* for the present King; which was the Source of another War, in which Fortune was not so favourable to her as in the former; for though the *French* made several Alliances for supporting King *Philip* on the Throne of *Spain*, yet such was the distressed and desolate Condition of that Kingdom, which had been declining for above a Century, through the Administration of three or four weak Princes, that the *French* were necessitated to send Fleets and Armies to defend her Dominions, which disabled them from making so great a Figure as they had done in

the precedent War : But nothing affords us a clearer Idea of the prodigious Strength and Riches of *France*, than the Losses she sustained through the Course of the last : Success is, no doubt, very often the Effect of Chance, and consequently does not give us an Opportunity of discovering our own Abilities ; but ill Fortune oblige us to collect our whole Strength, the Knowledge whereof is of the greatest Advantage to us in all Stations. — To imagine that *France*, could continue the last War with a Vicissitude of Fortune, after her Losses at *Blenheim*, *Ramillies*, and *Turin*, in which above eighty Thousand of her Veterans were slaughtered, exceeded

exceeded the Expectation of her most sanguine Advocates.

HAVING now taken a summary View of the Power of *France*, through the Courfe of the War of 1688. and that of 1702. in which *Spain* was a heavy Incumbrance upon her, we will now confider the Confequences of that which is now broke out between the Houfes of *Austria* and *Bourbon*; for which End, it will be neceffary to give fome Idea of the prefent flourishing Condition of *France*, as well with regard to Commerce and Wealth, as Alliances.

SHOULD

· SHOULD we form a Judgment of the *French* Power from the Increase or Extent of their Trade and Manufactures, we must allow it to be arrived at a very great Height : *Lewis the Fourteenth* was certainly a Prince of consummate Wisdom and Penetration, and, no doubt, but he made use of all Arts and Expedients for encouraging the Traffick of his Subjects ; yet, 'tis no less certain, that his Efforts were not capable of carrying it to so flourishing a Condition as it is at this Time ; which must either be attributed to his frequent Quarrels with his Neighbours, which disabled

abled him from cultivating the Arts of Peace, or to some happy Opportunities which have since occur'd ; and which, perhaps, nothing but Time alone could produce.

THE *French* Commerce to *India* was so inconsiderable in the late King's Reign, that it seemed to be carried on with no other View, than to make Discoveries ; and it was entirely neglected for many Years : But it has been so much improved for some Time past, that the *French* are now almost our Rivals in that Branch of Trade ; in which they employ no less than thirty or forty Ships of great Burden. And
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I am perswaded, we are very sensible of this Alteration, not only from the Fall of *India* Stock, but likewise from the Reduction of Dividends, which I am thoroughly perswaded are much more than the Company can well allow. It may, perhaps, be objected, that this Change must not be imputed to the *French* Company only, since several other Nations, and particularly, the *Danes*, and *Swedes*, carry on a Trade to the *Indies*: But whoever considers the Number of the Ships which those People have sent to that Country, or to *China*, must conclude, that the Sum of all their Efforts hitherto, has been little more than a bare Essay, which consequent-

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ly could never affect our Commerce. So we may well imagine, the Blow comes from the *French India Company* which imports Goods enough from that Country, to supply the greatest Part of *Europe*. And I think, there cannot be a more incontestable Proof of this, than the great Sales they frequently make in *Britanny*, to which Merchants resort from all the neighbouring Countries.

THE *French* have not been less vigilant and successful in their Trade to *Turky* which they have almost engross'd from us: And there is not a more convincing Argument of the

the surprizing Improvement which they have made in their Woollen Manufactures, since the Revolution, than their present flourishing Trade to the *Levant*, it being chiefly carried on with Woollen Goods; of which they make such large Quantities, that they not only supply the Markets in *Turky* and *Europe*, but those of *America* likewise; where they have for some Years, laboured with such Industry, in cultivating their Sugar-Plantations, that they now under-sell us every where; nor can that ever be prevented, without equal Frugality and Oeconomy on our Side.

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THE next Thing that falls under Consideration, is the Number and Power of those Princes who are in Alliance with *France*, of whom the King of *Spain* claims the first Rank.

WE observed before, the wretched Condition of that Kingdom upon the Accession of the present King; and, indeed, she was so far from giving any Assistance to the *French*, that, on the contrary, these run the Risque of exposing their own Country to the Invasions of the Confederates, while they were endeavouring to defend the other:

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But

But the vast and profound Genius of Cardinal *Alberoni* produced such an Alteration in the Affairs of that Monarchy, in a few Years, as seems incredible: When that great Man enter'd upon his Administration, in the Year 1714. *Spain* appeared like a Country abandoned or plundered; but such was his Vigilance and Activity, that in less than three Years, *Spain* had a considerable Naval Force, formidable Armies, Silk and Woollen Manufactures, established in several Parts of the Kingdom under the best Regulations. In a Word, all the Arts of Peace and War, were so much encouraged at the same Time, that the *Spaniards* were

were in a Condition to send a considerable Squadron of Ships of War to the Assistance of the *Venetians*, in the Year 1716; to invade *Sardinia* with a powerful Army, in 1717; and *Sicily*, in 1718; and in the Year 1719. they not only opposed the Imperial Forces in that Island, but brought a considerable Army against that of *France* in *Navarre*; and attempted to invade *England* at the same Time. And as the *Spanish* Ministers have since been continually employ'd in improving the great Plan formed by the Cardinal, so we see the Effects of it daily, by their new Trading Companies to the *Carracca's*, and the *Indies*; by their
great

great Armies, and Navies, which alarm all *Europe*, as well as *Africa*, and are much more formidable than those of *Philip the Second*; who was the Terror not only of *France*, but of *England* likewise: For the Land Forces of *Spain*, at this Time, consist of no less than a hundred thousand choice Troops; and their Naval Strength, of fourscore Ships of War of different Rates. And I think it proper to observe in this Place, that as the present King of *Spain* has surpassed all his Predecessors, except *Charles the Fifth* in Power, so he has in his Care of improving his Naval Force in *America*.

NEXT

NEXT the King of *Spain*, we must place that of *Sardinia*; who must be looked upon as an Ally of the greatest Importance to the two Crowns, not only with Regard to his formidable Armies, but his Wealth, and the Situation of his Dominions.

THO' the Elector of *Bavaria* has not yet declared for the House of *Bourbon*; I am perswaded, however, it will be no Paradox, to say, he is entirely attached to them, not only on the Score of Consanguinity, but what is much more powerful, his Pretensions to the Hereditary

Hereditary Countries of the House of *Austria*, in Right of his Consort, who is one of the Daughters of the late Emperor *Joseph*; for which Reason, he has rejected the Pragmatic Sanction. He is certainly a Prince of great Weight, as well for the Number and Bravery of his Troops, not inferior in that Respect to any in *Germany*, and the Situation of his Country, which, lying the Heart of the Empire, enables him, to annoy most of the *Germanick* Powers: And it is well known, that nothing but the great and seasonable Assistance of *Great Britain* and *Holland* prevented the Designs of the last Elector upon the Imperial Diadem.

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Denmark and *Sweden* seem to be heartily in the Interest of *France*; and as they are engaged to supply that Crown with Forces, we may conclude they will soon establish King *Stanislaus* on the Throne of *Poland*; and there is the more Reason to believe those Kingdoms will act with the greatest Zeal in the present Quarrel, when we consider how terrible the Power of *Muscovy* has been to both for many Years, as well by Sea as Land. And with Regard to *Sweden* in particular, she will be actuated by the strongest Motives, since not only the Restitution of *Livonia*, but that of a great Part of *Finland*;

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and, perhaps, the establishing the House of *Hesse-Cassel* on the *Swedish* Throne, will depend upon the Success of the War against *Muscovy*; and there is not the least Room to doubt, but the *Turks* will come into any Measures for checking the Power of that Empire, for which they have several justifiable Pretences; particularly, the late Battle between the Troops of *Muscovy* and the *Tartars*, and the Infraction of the Treaty of the *Pruth*, whereby the *Muscovites* were engaged not to intermeddle in the Affairs of *Poland*. Nor is it less probable, but the *Persians* will improve all Opportunities of recovering the rich and flourishing Dominions

nions which the *Muscovites* wrested from them some Years ago, without any other Motive, but that which generally regulates the Designs of ambitious Princes. So that we have Reason to think, the *Turks* as well as the *Persians*, will soon turn their Arms against the *Muscovites*, which will oblige them to draw off their Forces from *Poland* to defend their own Dominions, and consequently leave King *Stanislaus* in Possession of that Crown; who will prove a faithful Ally to *France*, and a dangerous Enemy to the House of *Austria*: Nor would it be surprising to see *Prussia* engaged in the same

Quarrel in Favour of King *Stanislaus*.

HAVING now given a Survey of those Potentates who are united by Alliances and Interest to act vigorously in the Cause of the House of *Bourbon*, we will now proceed to examine whether they will not be powerful enough to strip the Emperor of all his *Italian* Dominions, and even invade those in *Germany*; and consequently, whether that will not destroy the Ballance of Power for which *Europe* has been so long contending, and pave the Way to universal Monarchy; which nothing has or can prevent, but the immediate

mediate Assistance of *Great Britain* and *Holland*.

THAT the united Forces of *France*, *Spain*, and *Sardinia*, are powerful enough to drive the Imperialists out of *Italy*, will admit of no Argumentation; since it was very evident, that the Power of *Spain* alone could have effected it in the last Quarrel between that Crown and the Emperor, had not the Fleet of *Great Britain* interposed: And as the Inhabitants of these Countries are thoroughly affected to the *Spaniards*, the Conquest will meet with the less Difficulty.

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LET us now cast our Eyes towards the *Rhine*, where we see the *French* Army is numerous enough to attack one of the Barriers of the Empire ; and should they, upon the taking of it, march into *Bavaria*, and should the Elector join them with the powerful Army he has now on foot, and obtain the Dignity of *King of the Romans*, under the Guaranty of *France*, then there will be a Period to the Liberties of *Europe*.

NOTHING can be more amazing, than to observe those States and Potentates, who were so justly
alarmed

alarmed with Apprehensions of the exorbitant Power of *France* for above sixty Years, and particularly upon the Accession of King *Philip* to the Crown of *Spain* ; to observe, I say, the same Powers, as Spectators of the present dangerous Situation of the House of *Austria* and the Empire ; and this at a Time, when that of *Bourbon* is infinitely more formidable, than it has been in any Period of Time pointed out to us in History, as well with respect to Armies and Naval Forces, as Commerce, Manufactures, and Alliances. But this is not more extraordinary, than to see some of the same Powers boasting

ing of having contributed towards establishing a Branch of the House of *Bourbon* in *Italy*; which, I am persuaded, gave the first Occasion of forming the Design which is now on foot, of wresting the *Italian* Dominions from the House of *Austria*. Can these Princes or States, who are now inclinable to a Neutrality in the present Quarrel, imagine that the House of *Bourbon* has abandoned her favourite Scheme of universal Monarchy, which was first delineated by *Henry the Fourth*, afterwards improved under the Administration of *Richlieu* and *Mazarine*, and almost brought to its Meridian by *Lewis the Fourteenth*. No, *France* had

had it still at Heart, though the Necessity of Affairs, and the two last grand Alliances, obliged her to suspend it for some Time: But now the favourable Juncture is come for improving that fatal Scheme, for which *France* has been making vast Preparations for several Years, under the Umbrage of a deceitful Calm, and a pacifick Disposition; for during that Interval she found Means of filling her Coffers, making Alliances, promoting Trade, and putting her Militia under such Regulations and Discipline, that they are now almost equal to regular Forces; which will enable the *French* to send much more numerous Ar-

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mies into the Field, than in any former War. And indeed they have already exhibited a Specimen of their lordly and despotick Designs, by seizing the Dominions of the Duke of *Lorrain*, an absolute and independant Prince, and that in a Time of profound Peace; and upon no other Pretence, but *that it was for the Conveniency of France*: And I am persuaded, the very same Motive would induce them to seize all the Dominions in *Europe*, could it be effected with the same Facility.

THE Objections against our entering into a new Alliance against the formidable Power of the House
of

of *Bourbon*, and their Allies, may be reduced to these :

FIRST, That the Emperor's intermeddling in the *Polish* Election, gave Occasion to the present Invasion of *Germany*; and consequently that he must bear his own Burden.

SECONDLY, That the House of *Austria* is powerful enough to oppose that of *Bourbon*, considering the great Acquisition of the former in *Italy*, *Hungary*, and the *Netherlands*.

THIRDLY, That *France* has given effectual Assurances that she

has no ambitious Designs, nor any other, but that of establishing King *Stanislaus* on the Throne of *Poland*.

FOURTHLY, That a Quarrel with *France* will be dangerous, with regard to the Pretender.

AS to the first Objection, it must be observed, That the Emperor acted no other Part in the Election of *Poland*, than is justifiable by the several Treaties subsisting between the House of *Austria* and that Kingdom; and as their Interest should ever be united, being the only Christian Powers that must be the Bulwark

Bulwarks of *Christendom* against the *Turks*, 'tis not surprising that his Imperial Majesty would endeavour to prevent King *Stanislaus's* Election, who was so far engaged in the Measures of these Infidels, as to encourage their invading, not only the Imperial Dominions, but even his Native Country. How fit then he is to possess the Throne of *Poland*, of which the whole Kingdom declared him incapable in the most solemn Manner, let the Christian World judge.

THE second Objection carries, no doubt, an Air of Truth and Probability; and 'tis very certain, That the Emperor is possessed of many
large

large Dominions; and were they as contiguous to one another, as are those of *France*, he would be a very powerful Prince; but being dispersed at great Distances, it will be impossible for him to bring an Army of Forty Thousand Men into the Field in any Country, without exposing the rest. Whereas *France* has been able in a few Weeks, to assemble Eighty Thousand Men in *Germany*, and to send Forty Thousand, at the same Time into *Italy*. But we need go no further back than the Year 1713. to discover the Strength of the House of *Austria*, when opposed to that of the House of *Bourbon*; for though the former was assisted by

by those Princes and States of the Empire, who are now disposed to embrace a Neutrality, yet all their united Strength was not sufficient to prevent the *French* from taking *Landau*, and even *Friburgh*, the Key of *Germany*; and that in Sight of their Army, commanded by the Great *Eugene*; and this upon the Conclusion of a War, in which *France* had received such Blows as would have ruined any other Kingdom; and at a Time, when the *Turks* had given no Diversion to the Imperial Arms on the Side of *Hungary*. But there are the most violent Reasons to conclude they will now attempt the recovering *Temef-*
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ware and *Belgrade*, the Loss where-
of affords the Infidels a perpetual
Source of Uneasiness and Com-
plaints, which are not a little heigh-
ten'd by the Remembrance of a
Prophecy, held in great Veneration
amongst them, *That the Turkish Em-
pire shall never flourish without the
Possession of the latter of those Places.*
And though a Notion of that kind
may seem ridiculous to some, yet
it is impossible to imagine the great
Influence it may have on the Actions
of the Populace, especially in a
Country where Superstition is in its
Meridian, and where it is linked
with the real Interest of the People :
For, no doubt, the Conquest of
Belgrade

Belgrade would be of the greatest Importance to the Infidels, since it would secure them against the *Germans*, to whom it gives a fair Opportunity of invading the *Turkish* Dominions at Pleasure.

AS to the Assurances and Promises of *France* to the Princes and States of the Empire, they are very natural, and, I may say, common. All those ambitious Princes and States, who aspired to universal Monarchy or Power, and who made such Devastations in the World, had Recourse to the same Artifices, to the same soft and enchanting Language which we disco-

ver in his Most Christian Majesty's *Motives and Declaration*. At the very Time that *Philip* of *Macedon* had projected the Conquest of the *Grecian* Commonwealths, there was nothing to be heard from himself, or his Ministers, but the Preservation and Liberties of *Greece*; nay, he carried the Jest so far, as to insinuate, it would be for her Advantage, to make choice of him for a Protector against the *Persians*, who were then as formidable to *Greece*, as the *French* have been to *Europe* for many Years. The *Romans* practised pretty near the same Wiles: When they had formed a Design of enslaving any Nation, their first Step

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was an Alliance with them, or to offer themselves as Arbitrators upon any Difference that might arise between them and their Neighbours. And, indeed, these were the Contrivances that gave them an Opportunity of reducing the greatest Princes and Commonwealths of *Europe, Asia, and Africa* to their Obedience, one after another : But had they united themselves in Time against those Robbers, there is no doubt but they would have been able to have stemmed the Torrent of Slavery which afterwards overwhelmed the best Part of the then known World, and preserved the common Liberty from the Ro-

man Yoke, under which many Sovereign Princes and States were groaning for several Ages. And surely nothing can give us a more dreadful Idea of universal Power, than when we reflect upon the Insolence of the *Romans* towards Princes who had the ill Fortune to be vanquished by them. Nor can any Thing be more shocking, than to see a King of *Macedon*, a free and independant Monarch, dragging behind the triumphal Chariot of a *Roman* General. His Calamities might have been prevented, had the *Rhodi-ans*, and other neighbouring Powers, afforded him timely Assistance : But they looking upon a Neutrality as
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the safest Expedient, saw that unfortunate Prince carried away into Slavery ; in which they soon follow'd him ; though the *Romans*, no doubt, gave them strong Assurances of their inviolable Friendship while the Quarrel subsisted between them and *Perseus*. And I own frankly, that his Most Christian Majesty's Assurances seem to be of the same Complexion with those of *Philip of Macedon*, the *Romans*, *Lewis the Fourteenth*, and all other Powers, who have ever formed Schemes for enslaving their Neighbours.

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THE Danger of an Invasion from *France* in Favour of the Pretender, in case we should enter into the Measures of his Imperial Majesty and the Empire, is a very popular Objection, and challenges the greatest Attention. But I will undertake to prove, that the Restoration of that unhappy Prince, or his Father, was, and is inconsistent with the Interest of *France*; and consequently that she never form'd any such Design, without parting from her Maxims and Interest.

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I A M well apprized, that to remove general Prejudices or Notions, is a Task of great Difficulty, especially when they fall in with seeming Advantages. And I am perswaded there are some weak and deluded People who will not be undeceived with Regard to their Opinion of the Sincerity of *France* towards the late King *James* and his Son. But it is not to them I am addressing myself: 'Tis to People of Penetration and Intelligence, and such as are acquainted with the Interests of Princes, and have some Knowledge of the Politicks of *France*.

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'TIS a received Maxim with all Princes and States, to cherish Divisions and Discontents amongst their Neighbours, though they generally disclaim such Practices. But 'tis certain, that this is the Source from whence they take all their Measures and Designs. No People in the World have so well improved that Lesson as the *French*, of which we have a fatal Example in the Convulsions of 1641; which were generally allowed to have been fomented by *Richlieu*. No Juncture is so favourable to such Views, as when there are Competitors for our Crown, since that must certainly

certainly divide us into Parties ; the one favouring the Prince upon the Throne, the other the Prince who would exchange Place with him. This, I say, will naturally produce a Contrast in all Counfels and Deliberations, and has often proved of pernicious Confequences to the Publick Good. We have too many Examples of this Kind ; and ſince nothing can be more agreeable to the Defigns of *France* than our Diviſions, can any one believe ſhe would take any Steps that might heal them ? We, who have for ſome Ages ſtood in her Way to Grandeur ! and We, who have intercepted her Career to

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universal

universal Monarchy, by the glorious Efforts we made in the two last Wars! No one surely can conceive any Thing so monstrous and extravagant! Have we not seen all these Things exemplified in our own Generation? Did not *Lewis the Fourteenth* give King *James* and his Son repeated Promises that he would restore them? Did not that animate their Friends in *Great Britain*, and often push some of them into the most dangerous Measures? Was it not to the Influence of those Promises that our Divisions must be attributed in King *William's* Reign, and in that of his Successor? Nay, some

some were even so far infatuated, as to conceive great Hopes even from the Regent's Inclinations; and that, at the same Time, he was engaged by the strongest Ties of Interest to secure the *Hanover* Succession. But there is no Room to doubt, the Regent was artful enough to insinuate something of that Cast, in order to promote some Political Views.

SOME, indeed, will object the Affair of *La Hogue*, where the *French* lost a great Fleet, in attempting, as they imagine, the Restoration of the late King *James*; but whatever Appearance there might be of *Lewis*

the Fourteenth's Sincerity in that Enterprize, 'tis certain he never had any other real Design in it, than to destroy the *English* Squadron, by Means of the Intelligence which had been carried on with some of our Admirals or Commanders, who the *French* imagined had still preserved their Fidelity for their old Master. And I think there cannot be a more undeniable Proof of this, than their fighting upon such unequal Terms; for the *French* Fleet consisted of forty Sail only, though they were well apprized that ours, with the *Dutch* Squadron, consisted of eighty Capital Ships; so that it is the general Opinion

Opinion of the most intelligent People of both Kingdoms, that had the *French* succeeded in that Enterprize, they would not have restored *King James*, for this invincible Reason, *That it was not for the Interest of France*, to which all Promises, Treaties, Ties of Blood, and even the strongest Obligations of Religion, must give way.

BUT to remove any Scruples or Doubts on this Topick, let us reflect upon the Conduct of the *French* in the Year 1690. when they were so formidable at Sea, that *England* and *Holland* thought proper to lay up their

their Squadrons after the Sea-Fight at *Batry-Bay* and *Beachy-Head* ; so that the *French* lorded it upon our Coasts, as their Army did in *Flanders* after the Battle of *Fleury*, which obliged the Confederates to quit the Field, and throw their Infantry into the fortified Places ; which certainly might have afforded the *French* a fair Opportunity of sending any Part of that Army, which consisted of no less than eighty thousand Men, into *England* ; and that without Opposition, the Gros of our Troops being then in *Ireland*, and the People at Home very uneasy upon the Prospect of a long
and

and expensive War, in which they found themselves engaged, (contrary to their Expectation,) for supporting the Revolution; of which some began to be weary, though they had been very zealous for it in its Infancy.

SHOULD any remain still incredulous, with regard to the Insincerity of *France* towards King *James*, I would intreat them to reflect a little upon her Conduct at the Treaty of *Ryswick*, when she was almost in a Condition to give Laws to the Confederates, having reduced the Duke of *Savoy*, taken *Barcelona*, the
Key

Key of *Spain* on the Side of *France*, and so streightened the Army of the Allies in *Flanders*, that it was the general Opinion they would not retreat without fighting upon the most unequal Terms: But the *French* were so far from improving that happy Situation of their Affairs towards King *James's* Re-establishment, that the Treaty was concluded without one Stipulation in his Favour.

SINCE it is apparent then, that *France* never form'd any real Design of restoring that Prince, though 'tis notorious that he sacrificed his Crown for his Attachment to her Interest, can his Son expect any better Terms?

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'Tis true, *France* has loaded him with Promises, and has often magnify'd the Attempt made in 1708: But in Reality, the whole Scope of that Design, was not only to seize the Equivalent Money, then lodged in the Castle of *Edinburgh*, which was then in a defenceless Condition, but likewise to stir up the *Scots* to an Insurrection, to which they were inclinable enough on the Score of the Union; and which would certainly have obliged the Queen to draw off a great Body of the Army in *Flanders*. But it was a great Happiness for the People, who might be deluded with *French* Promises, that the Design miscarried, and that the Fleet had no Opportunity of landing the

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Forces

Forces on Board : For had that been the Case, no sooner would the *French* have seen that unhappy Nation deeply embarked in the Quarrel, and all Parts of the Kingdom in Flames, but they would immediately withdraw their Forces, and leave the deluded People in the Lurch, as they did the Inhabitants of *Messina* in the War of 1672 ; and the unhappy *Irish* in the Year 1690. Mr. *Lockhart*, indeed, tells us, in his *Memoirs*, that the *French* did not intend to land their Troops : But let that be as it will, 'tis very certain, they had no Intentions of restoring the Pretender by that Attempt.

THE high Opinion which the unfortunate People who took Arms
for

for him in *England* and *Scotland*, in the Year 1715. had conceived of *French* Assistance, was the only Spring of all their Misfortunes: But they were soon undeceived, when they understood, that the *French* were so far from sending them any Succours, that they had even stopped the Vessels that were intended to carry them Money and Ammunition; and that the severest Penalties were denounced against such Subjects of *France* as should assist, or hold any Intelligence with the Pretender or his Adherents. And accordingly we saw the *French* very uniform and consistent through their whole Conduct in that Affair: For, upon the Pretender's Return to *France*, after the

Miscarriage of his Design in *Scotland*, the *French* Politicks would not afford him even Time to refresh himself from the Fatigue of a dangerous Voyage, and a long Journey : He must immediately be hurried away out of the *French* Territories ! But that was not sufficient ; for the same Politicks chased him from *Avignon* over the *Alps*, notwithstanding the Danger of the Roads, and the Inclemency of the Weather. So that I am perswaded there is not a Man living, but must be convinced, that *France* never had any real Intentions of restoring a Man they had deserted at a Juncture, when nothing was more practicable than to effect it ; and a Man they had treated with

with such unparallel'd Severity : And that since 'tis the Interest of that Kingdom to foment and encourage our Divisions, by cherishing a Competition for our Crown, and managing the Prince in Possession, as well as him who is labouring for it, as Opportunities offer ; sometimes threatening the former with the latter ; at other Times, cajoling this ; then banishing him, upon the Prospect of some new Advantage. I say, while the Case is such, as it ever will be, with regard to *France*, 'tis ridiculous to imagine that Crown will restore the Pretender. We know very well the Use *France* made of King *Charles the Second* and his Brothers ; and that she enter'd into the strongest En-

Engagements with *Cromwell*, who was the most accomplish'd Profligate upon Earth, for the Exclusion of the Royal Family, though they were the Children of a Daughter of *France* then living. But that Step obtained her such Advantages from the Traitor, as she could not have expected by any other Incident or Opportunity whatever. And I may affirm, we may derive the exorbitant Power to which *France* is now arrived, from those Advantages only.

'TIS not improbable, but the *French* may, in case of a Rupture, invite the Pretender to the old Station at *St. Germain*s, make him a thousand Promises, as she has done to several
other

other unhappy Princes, who have been obliged to seek for Shelter with them, and whom they played off upon Emergencies : But should he give any Ear to their Solicitations, he must be the weakest of Mankind; since he has the strongest Reasons to believe, the whole World centers in sending him over the *Alps* once more, whenever the Interest of *France* required it.

TO conclude : Should such vain and groundless Apprehensions frighten us into a Neutrality, while the House of *Bourbon* is establishing a new Kingdom in *Lombardy*, while the Empire and the Hereditary Dominions of
the

the House of *Austria* are invaded and ravaged: A House, which for above a Century, has not only been the Bulwark of the Christian World against the Power and Designs of the Infidels, but has likewise, for many Years, made her greatest Efforts, in Conjunction with *Great Britain* and *Holland*, to reduce the exorbitant Power of *France*. — Then we may say of the *French*, as the *Jews* did of the *Romans*, *They will come, and take our Place and Nation*. For our Neutrality and pacifick Conduct will intitle us to no other Favour, but what was granted to *Ulysses* and his Companions, *of being the last who will be devour'd*.

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